



Eastern Kentucky University Highlights & Achievements

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- School districts and communities throughout Eastern Kentucky University's 22-county primary service region will soon have a new partner in their quest for a brighter future. Beginning with the Fall 2009 term, ECU will place seven Education Extension Agents (EEAs) throughout the area, each responsible for three or four counties, working with ECU faculty and applying University resources in response to needs identified by educational and community leaders. Eastern's EEA program is believed to be the first of its kind undertaken by any regional comprehensive university nationwide.
- The dairy herd at Eastern Kentucky University's Meadowbrook Farm ranks among the best in the Commonwealth and nation. The University's herd of 55 Holsteins is ranked seventh nationally among all University herds in type score – their appearance compared to a Holstein ideal. In addition, one cow in the herd ranks first in the state among senior two-year-olds for protein production and third in the state for the same age group in fat production. Over a 305-day period, she produced 967 pounds of protein (3.2 percent) and 1,194 pounds of fat (4 percent).
- Eastern Kentucky University's Mock Trial Team finished fourth in the "Ramblin' Wreck" Tournament at Georgia Tech Jan. 30-Feb. 1. In head-on competition, Eastern knocked off teams from Emory, Rhodes and the University of Alabama-Birmingham. In the final standings, ECU finished ahead of teams from Stanford, Duke, Vanderbilt and Furman, among others.
- The Eastern Kentucky Environmental Research Institute (EK-ERI) at Eastern Kentucky University has received a three-year, \$323,404 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture to examine the impact of agricultural best management practices on water quality in cattle-grazing lands in karstic watersheds. The study, to be performed in the Brushy Creek watershed in Rockcastle County, could have statewide and even national significance, according to Dr. Alice Jones, EK-ERI director. Nearly 25 percent of U.S. land, and more than half in Kentucky, is karstic, defined as an area of irregular limestone marked by fissures, sinkholes, underground streams, and caverns.
- After three successful years, Eastern Kentucky University's "Try Teaching" program is again accepting applications from mid- and second-career professionals who are intrigued about their potential in front of a classroom. The nationally innovative program is geared to those who have doubts about leaving their current job behind to return to college for a second degree. It allows participants to gauge their comfort level as a classroom teacher before making a life-changing career move. The program, funded by a \$175,000 grant from Ashland Inc., has attracted 28 participants in its first three years. Each spent one or two weeks in a K-12 classroom, gaining first-hand experience as they assisted in the preparation and execution of lesson plans while learning successful educational practices from their teaching mentors. Several from the inaugural group have decided to enter ECU's Master's in Teaching Program, which prepares and certifies individuals who hold non-teaching baccalaureate degrees, according to Dr. Cynthia Resor, coordinator of the MAT program and director of the "Try Teaching" program.
- ECU's commitment to energy efficiency and environmental preservation extends to the campus police department. ECU Police now has a "green" tool to help keep the campus safe –the first electric patrol motorcycle, to Chief Mark Merriman's knowledge, for any police department in Kentucky. The Vectrix motorcycle, if driven the same amount of time as a cruiser, would save the University almost \$10,000 (its approximate cost) annually if gas averaged \$3.

3/6/09

KCTCS Good News Report February 2009

KCTCS Colleges Receive More Than \$3.2 million In Grants

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) is proud to announce three of its colleges have received grants from the U.S. Department of Labor totaling more than \$3.2 million.

“KCTCS has been a real leader in developing programs at our colleges that meet the demand for high wage, high skilled jobs in our communities,” said KCTCS President Michael B. McCall.

Gateway Community and Technical College (GCTC) in Covington received a Community-Based Job Training (CBJT) grant for \$846,670. The grant will fund the Northern Kentucky Regional Homeland Security Careers Project. The project will enable Gateway to add the organizational infrastructure required to create new and expanded training activities designed to increase the pipeline of qualified workers into the security industry. This is the third Department of Labor grant Gateway has received in less than a year. The others include an \$866,095 nursing expansion grant awarded in April 2008 and a \$394,993 grant awarded in July to fund career education for high-growth jobs, specifically for the energy industry.

Madisonville Community College (MCC) received a Technology-Based Learning

(TBL) grant for health care in the amount of \$425,181.

The college will use the funding to develop an online *Integrated Nursing Center Pathway* to address the critical shortage of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and baccalaureate nurses in the health care industry in western

Kentucky and continuous regions of three other states (Illinois, Indiana and Tennessee). MCC will model the design and delivery of the online program after its highly successful, online surgical assistant program.

West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC) in Paducah also received a CBJT grant for \$1,931,913 to be used in energy careers. Participants in this project will work to develop a workforce that promotes regional energy capacity and efficiency.

The Department of Labor CBJT grants were introduced by former President George W. Bush in 2004. The grants are awarded to improve the ability of community colleges to provide their regions' workers with the skills needed to enter growing industries.

GCTC and WKCTC were chosen from among 274 nationwide CBJT grant applicants. MCC was chosen from 193 applicants for the TBL grant.



Kentucky State University
GOOD NEWS
October 2008 – Mid-February 2009

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments –

- The AuthorHouse has published Dr. Michael Kasongo's autobiography, *Born to be a Preacher and a Teacher: The Life Story of Michael O. Kasongo*. Dr. Kasongo is an Associate Professor in the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences. He is also an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church. His previous publications include the *History of the Methodist Church in Congo*.
- The Art Area sponsored an Art Festival in December in collaboration with local artists. Twenty-two visual artists participated and two local bands performed. Approximately 150 people were in attendance for this first event in Shauntee Hall as the new official Art Area facility.
- Dr. Karah Stokes has been chosen as Vice President of the Kentucky Philological Association for 2009.
- Dr. April Fallon's paper "Mutability and Paradox in the Poetry of Lorine Niedecker" has been accepted at the 2009 Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900. She also has been asked to write the encyclopedia entry on Lorine Niedecker for *The Literary Encyclopedia*, sponsored by the University of East Anglia.
- Professor Victor Gomia attended the annual summit of the Bali Cultural and Development Association and presented a paper titled "Emerging Perspectives in Postcolonial Discourse: Making Literature Functional."
- The Division of Literature, Languages and Philosophy's Journalism Area successfully launched *KSU Reflections* in October. The weekly student-run talk radio show airs on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. *KSU Reflections* is produced by KSU Journalism and Mass Communications students. Students in public relations and advertising also sell advertising for the show under the supervision of Max Maxwell in the Division of External Relations and Development.
- Dr. Steven Gale, Endowed Chair for the Humanities, was featured on *Think Tank with Ben Wattenberg*, a television program where Dr. Gale discussed the works of 20th century humorist S.J. Perelman, the award-winning writer for *The New Yorker* and other publications. Dr. Gale is an authority on Perelman, having published three books and several articles on his writings.
- Dr. Paul Wilhelm, Associate Professor of Management in the School of Business, attended the American Society for Competitiveness 2008 Conference in November. He presented four papers, chaired a session and obtained two journal acceptances for the *Competitiveness Review*. The first paper he presented was "Testing Hofstede's Three World Games Hypothesis: How the Culture of Evaluation and Integrity Affects Global Competitiveness," which was about culture and global competitiveness, a topic he presents in his Principles of Management, International Business, Strategic Management and Contemporary Topics in Management courses. He related the three most widely played board games to culture and global competitiveness. The other papers were "An Analysis of Corruption, Taxation and IASB: The Effect on Global Competitiveness"; "Prioritizing Technological Innovation and Diffusion using Stepwise Regression: The Crucial 8 Variables for Global Competitiveness" with Dr. James Obielodan, Associate Professor in the School of Business; and "Partial Invalidation of the Economic Freedom Index: The Crucial Role of Corruption Fighting as Administrative and Legislative Policy to Maximize Global Competitiveness."
- The Division of Aquaculture completed its third video-based online course, *Fish Reproduction and Spawning Techniques*, and its fourth Internet course. This course will be offered during the fall 2009 semester. To date, students in 36 states and 15 countries have taken KSU Aquaculture online courses.
- A manuscript, authored by Fred Bebe and Dr. Myna Panemangalore of Community Research Service, titled "Biosafety of Flavonoids in Rats: Effects on Copper and Zinc Homeostasis and Interaction with Low Level Pesticide Exposure" was accepted for publication by *Biological Trace Element Research* after peer review.
- Dr. Myna Panemangalore, Principal Investigator for the Nutrition and Health Research program, has been formally appointed as a reviewer for the online *Journal of Biotech Research* by its editor-in-chief.
- Dr. John Sedlacek, Principal Investigator of Entomology, and Dr. Robert Barney, Associate Research Director and Principal Investigator in Community Research Service, attended the 56th annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America in November. Dr. Sedlacek presented a research poster co-authored by Karen Friley, Co-Investigator of Entomology, titled "Populations of Beneficial Insects in Organically Grown Sweet Corn Using PredaLure Insect Attractant." Dr. Barney presented a paper titled "Darwin's Evolution as a Coleopterist."
- Dr. Joanne Bankston of the Land Grant Program attended the Extension pre-conference and the annual meeting of the Association of Financial

Counseling and Planning Education in November. She made a presentation on mortgage foreclosure resources during the pre-conference and co-presented the poster "Providing Estate Planning Education via the Web" at the conference.

AFCPE is a professional organization focused on supporting, promoting and advancing the field of financial counseling and planning education. Dr. Bankston also was featured in a Q&A in the Scope section of the *State Journal*. She discussed financial planning, how she came to value the concept and why it is important during turbulent economic times.

- Dr. George Antonious of the KSU Land Grant Program, in collaboration with Western Kentucky University through the statewide Kentucky Mesonet Consortium Project grant, has completed the installation of a new weather station at the KSU Research Farm. The new weather station connects the KSU Research Farm to a series of weather stations in Kentucky to ensure short- and long-term monitoring for various natural and man-made hazardous conditions. Kentucky Mesonet is a network of automated weather and climate monitoring stations in different locations throughout Kentucky. It was developed by the Kentucky Climate Center at WKU to serve researchers and students monitoring environmental quality as well as to serve the diverse needs in communities across the Commonwealth.
- Dr. Kirk Pomper, Principal Investigator of Horticulture in Community Research Service, recently had an article published in the *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, "Loss of Ripening Capacity of Pawpaw Fruit with Extended Cold Storage." The article was the result of a collaborative research project with Drs. Federica Galli and Douglas Archbold, who are researchers in the Department of Horticulture at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Pomper also was interviewed in the *Christian Science Monitor* concerning the KSU Pawpaw Program. The article by Craig Summers Black, [America's Forgotten Fruit](#), appeared in the Jan. 29, issue of the *Christian Science Monitor*. His program and Web site were discussed in [Michael Mills Gardening Q&A on January 30, 2009](#) in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. The KSU Pawpaw Information Web site, <http://www.pawpaw.kysu.edu>, averages over 100 visitors a day and has had over 150,000 visitors since 2003.
- Dr. Michael Bomford, Dr. Kirk Pomper, Sheri Crabtree and Jeremy Lowe, all researchers in the Land Grant Program's Community Research Service, made presentations to growers at the Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference on Jan. 5 and 6 in Lexington, Ky. Over 200 people attended the conference. Dr. Bomford, principal investigator of organic/sustainable agriculture, discussed energy and organic agriculture. Pomper and Crabtree presented their pawpaw regional variety trial results. Pomper and Lowe discussed their blackberry trial results. Dr. Pomper also serves as an adviser to the Kentucky State Horticultural Society and assisted in the planning of the 2010 Fruit and Vegetable Conference at this year's conference.
- Dr. Michael Bomford of KSU's Land Grant Program was one of 20 world "visionaries" invited to present at a two-day summit on rooftop farming in Berkeley. The summit was featured in the *New York Times* article "Visionaries Work to Get Rooftop and Vertical Farming Off the Ground." Dr. Bomford's presentation on greenhouse energy use is posted at <http://www.skyvegetables.com>.
- Dr. Avinash Topè, Phyllis Rogers and Susan Templeton of the Nutrition and Health Research Program of KSU's Community Research Service in the Land Grant Program provided support to the faculty, staff and PTA at Lowe Elementary School in Louisville, Ky., in kicking off their "Biggest Loser" Campaign on Jan. 12. The KSU team calculated the body mass index and body fat percentage for 37 teachers and parents participating in the program and also shared information on goal-setting strategies and the online tools for monitoring energy balance. This initiative was a result of successful interaction between Terry Giltner, co-chair of the Lowe PTA Health Promotion Committee, and Dr. Topè at the Kentucky State Fair last summer. The KSU team plans to track the success of the "Biggest Loser" program at Lowe Elementary School for the duration of the program.
- Sheila Stuckey, Director of Blazer Library, Sharon McGee, KSU Records Manager, and Betsy Morelock, CESKAA Archivist, have received a grant of \$60,000 through SOLINET for the use of CESKAA (Center of Excellence for the Study of Kentucky African Americans) and Blazer Library to improve the condition of KSU's historic photographs. The grant is an integral part of the HBCU Photograph Preservation Project, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in response to a proposal submitted by the Art Conservation Department of the University of Delaware and SOLINET in partnership with the HBCU Library Alliance and the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia.
- Dr. James Tidwell, Director of Aquaculture, was featured on *Global Connections Television*, a Frankfort Plant Board Cable Channel 10 public access show. He discussed the importance of aquaculture for the state and region.
- Dr. Robert J. Barney, Associate Research Director in the Land Grant Program and Principal Investigator in Community Research Service, was elected to a two-year term as secretary of the Association of Research Directors Inc. The Association of Research Directors Inc. is a federation of 18 autonomous land grant universities that provides coordination of research initiatives among member 1890 institutions in

cooperation with federal, state and private partners. The ARD partners with USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service and holds membership in the State Agricultural Experiment Station System of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

- Dr. Kimberly Holmes, Associate Director of the Land Grant Program, was elected to a three-year term on the budget and legislative committee of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy by members of the Association of Extension Administrators at the NASULGC National Conference held in November in Chicago, Ill. ECOP is the governing *committee* for the national Cooperative *Extension* System and a division of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. AEA is the federation of all deans and extension administrators of the 1890 land grant universities. This group provides coordination of extension and outreach initiatives among member 1890 institutions in cooperation with federal, state and private partners. Dr. Holmes also recently was appointed to the board of directors for the Southern Rural Development Center. The SRDC seeks to strengthen the capacity of the region's 29 land grant universities to address critical contemporary rural development issues impacting the well-being of people and communities in the rural South. The appointment is to a three-year term.
- Dr. George Antonious, Principal Investigator in the Community Research Service of the KSU Land Grant Program, was elected Jan. 24 to serve a four-year term as chair of the Kentucky Academy of Science Committee of Distribution of Research Funds. He also served as a panelist on the National Peer Review Committee for the Federally Recognized Programs on Feb. 10-12 in Washington, D.C. The main objective of this panel is to establish and support extension education programs in North America. Twenty-seven proposals from academia and the federal government were recommended for funding by the USDA/CSREES in 2009.
- Dr. Wasim Al-Hamdani, Associate Professor of Cryptography and Information Security, contributed to Chapter 17 in *Information Security Management: Case Studies*, which will be published in August 2009. Dr. Al-Hamdani's section in Chapter 17 is titled "Cryptography Algorithms Standards: Guidelines for Management." He partnered with Wendy Dixie of Information Technology to write Chapter 16 in *Information Security Management: Case Studies*. Their section in Chapter 16 is titled "Impact of Incomplete or Missing Information Security Policy."
- KSU Aquaculture's research on the effect of light on the production of shrimp is featured on the Shrimp News International Web site. Russell S.

Neal, Brian M. Boudreau, Shawn D. Coyle and Dr. James Tidwell worked on the project with Dave Wood. View the research at

<http://www.shrimpnews.com/FreeNewsBackIssue/s/FreeNewsAugust200801.html>

- Kyetta May was named volleyball Coach of the Year this fall after leading her team of mostly freshmen and three sophomores to a 27-14 record. This is her second season with the Thorobrettes.

Student Accomplishments –

- Kentucky State University was chosen to compete among 64 historically black colleges and universities at the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Tournament in Orlando, Fla. This year's varsity squad members are Joseph Franklin, who is serving as the team captain, Kendra Joseph, James Lawson Whites, Franklin Brewer and Morgan Van Dunk. Dr. Ivory Griskell is the team coach. The team advanced to the Final Four at the Honda Campus All Star Challenge Pre-NCT Tournament, Feb. 21-22 at Morgan State University. KSU finished fourth among 20 teams vying for the top spot. Whites was named to an All-Star Squad as he placed amongst the eight highest scorers of the weekend.
- KSU had several students participate in the 2009 Posters-at-the-Capitol, Feb. 5 in the Capitol. It is an event hosted collaboratively by colleges and universities in the Commonwealth to help members of Kentucky's legislature and the governor better understand the importance of involving undergraduates in research, scholarly and creative work. Among the undergraduate presenters were Leslye Brent, De'Anna Craycroft, Shandeep Dutta, Maleka Embry, Emerald Gates, Marcel Hampton, Abdul Kakar, Lauren Lobel, Ashley Mack, Elizabeth Perkins, Rodney Ripberger, John Rodgers, Kiah Rodriguez, Colby Smith, Michael Somuah and Jonathan Strayer.
- Three Aquaculture graduate students – Noel Novelo, Travis Bailey and Wes Stilwell – successfully defended their theses this fall.
- Aquaculture graduate students received real-world experience through a marketing and economics project. Students sold largemouth bass directly to consumers, wholesalers and restaurants, and closely tracked and analyzed data from all sales. Approximately \$5,400 was generated and will be used for graduate students' expenses at the 2009 World Aquaculture Society Conference.
- Lauren Lobel and Maleka Embry, Kentucky State University Kentucky-West Virginia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation majors, presented their research at the 94th annual meeting of the Kentucky Academy of Science Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 at the University of Kentucky. Lobel placed first in the agricultural sciences oral

presentation category with “Ascorbic Acid and Phenol Contents of Hot Pepper Fruits from Eight Countries of Origin,” written by Lobel, Dr. George Antonious and Dr. T.S. Kochhar. She also presented her poster “Antioxidants in Hot Pepper Fruits: Variation among Countries of Origin” at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students Nov. 5-8 in Orlando, Fla. Lobel also worked with Antonious and Kochhar to research and compile the poster. Embry presented “Absorption and Accumulation of Heavy Metals in Vegetable Grown in Soil Mixed with Sewage and Sludge” at the Kentucky Academy of Science meeting. She co-wrote the presentation with Antonious and Kochhar.

- Sophomore Kiera Thomas was one of four national winners of the TAG Make history National Grants Program. She received \$10,000 to bolster a show choir on campus.
- KSU runner Alexandria Payne was honored as the KYTrackXC.com Athlete of the Week for finishing second in the 200-meter dash at the Hoosier Invitational on Feb. 7 in Bloomington, Ind. Her 26.53 finish was her best indoor time this season. She also placed fourth in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.98.
- Nikki Douglas was named to the 2008 SIAC All Conference Volleyball Team. She led the conference in digs, averaging 5.36 per game, and led her team to consecutive first-place finishes in the SIAC Western Division. She also was honored as the SIAC Defensive Player of the Year.

Events –

- Black History Month speaker Dr. George Wright, president of Prairie View A&M University and an African American scholar, discussed his life and the struggles Kentucky African Americans had to overcome.
- Kentucky State University was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service for its outstanding commitment to community service, civic engagement and service learning.

“Good News” Report from Morehead State University

- Morehead State University’s coed cheerleading squad captured its eighth consecutive national championship at the College National Cheerleading Championships (Jan. 16-19). The Universal Cheerleaders Association-sponsored event was held at the Walt Disney’s Wide World of Sports in Orlando, Fla. With the win, MSU’s coed squad captured its 19th overall championship. For the second straight year, the all-girl squad finished second. The all-girl squad has won a total of six national championships.
- MSU’s Office of Student Activities and the Center for Regional Engagement sponsored a service project on Jan. 19. In recognition of the national Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, the service project was held in the Button Drill Room with more than 80 people participating. Disaster survival kits for local residents and bedside craft packs for children in the hospital were made with the volunteer efforts.
- In celebration of Black History Month, the Ohio Valley Conference featured MSU alumnus Dr. Marshall D. Banks. Dr. Banks was the first African American to earn athletically-related aid and coach at MSU. He is a member of MSU’s alumni and athletic halls of fame and received an honorary doctoral degree. A native of Ashland, Dr. Banks earned a bachelor’s degree from MSU in 1962 and received his master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. After teaching one year of high school, Dr. Banks returned to MSU to begin his college teaching career in 1965. He served as an instructor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation and also was the head track and cross country coach.
- Joseph Fraley, farm manager at Morehead State University, has been elected to the board of Farm Service Agency. Mr. Fraley will represent the Morehead region. FSA county committees help local farmers through their decisions on commodity price support loans, conservation and disaster assistance programs by working closely with county executive directors.
- Dr. Erla Mowbray, chair of Morehead State University Department of Nursing, has been elected chair of the advisory board for the Center for Health Care Professions. She began her term during the Jan. 5 meeting. Members of the advisory board include deans and chairs of nursing and health science programs, licensure board executive directors and representatives from Kentucky hospitals and health care organizations.
- Dr. Thomas Pannuti, assistant professor of space science, and Doug Staggs, Belfry senior, conducted observations at the research observatory operated by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO) located near Tucson, Ariz. Working in collaboration with an astronomer from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Pannuti and Staggs conducted observations with the WIYN (Wisconsin-Indiana-Yale-NOAO) 0.9-meter telescope at Kitt Peak.

- Julia Hawkins, director of career services at Morehead State University, has been selected as an Honored Member of the Biltmore Who's Who Executive and Professional Registry. The selection recognized her outstanding achievements in the education field.
- Former Morehead State University assistant football coach Rex Ryan accepted the head coaching job of the New York Jets. Ryan served as the defensive coordinator for MSU from 1990-93.
- Dr. Jennifer Birriel, associate professor of physics, has been listed in the "Who's Who of American Women" 50th anniversary edition. She holds the Ph.D. degree and a master's degree in physics from the University of Pittsburgh, and a bachelor's degree, also in physics, from the University of Missouri at Kansas City.
- Gary Holeman, who has been involved in technology in both industry and higher education for nearly 30 years, has been named assistant vice president for technology and chief information officer at Morehead State University.
- On Feb. 5, thirty students from MSU collaborating with 28 faculty from 16 academic departments presented 17 posters describing their undergraduate research projects at the **8th Annual Posters-at-the-Capitol Event** held at the state capitol in Frankfort. The 17 student research projects presented were selected from a record 44 abstracts submitted by 76 MSU students working with 47 faculty mentors. Many of these students were supported by MSU's innovative **Undergraduate Research Fellows** program that provides academic year fellowships for students to work with faculty mentors on scholarly projects outside the formal classroom setting.



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Fostering excellence
Creating community
Building partnerships



WKMS-FM Above and beyond the call letters

Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear publicly recognized MSU for its response to the January 2009 ice storm. WKMS, Murray State's public radio station, was the source of accurate, up-to-date information for western Kentucky. The university's website also functioned as an information source, keeping students' parents in the loop on services being offered for students, such as the availability of meals, safe drinking water and shelters. MSU's new state-of-the-art university public safety office became the hub of emergency operations for MSU, the city and Calloway County.



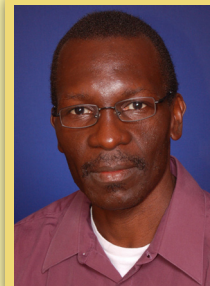
Serving the region

Recent regional stewardship efforts by the university include

hosting 300 Kentucky high school students at a Great Kids Summit on campus and The World We Create traveling exhibit from the Louisville Science Center. MSU's office of regional stewardship also worked with the Paducah Area Transit System to secure a \$1.4 million grant to make public transportation more efficient. The Fulton and Murray transit systems, along with the Easter Seals Western Kentucky will also benefit from the grant.



Faculty achievements



Three Murray faculty members were recognized in the *Louisville Defender* as African-American Achievers as a part of Black History Month. They are (left to right) Dr. Donald Adongo, assistant professor, mathematics and statistics; Dr. Brian Clardy, assistant professor, history; and Dr. Debbie Owens, associate professor, journalism and mass communications.

MSU unplugged

MSU administrative staff received three extra days off during the winter break as the university expanded its "green" initiative. The closing, which significantly reduced energy usage, saved the university approximately \$29,000.

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
GOES TO

THE
INAUGURATION
OF BARACK OBAMA JAN. 18 - 20

MSU student Katie DeCillo became the eyes and ears of the university in Washington, D.C., with a video blog during the inauguration of President Barack Obama. Katie immersed herself in the historical event by attending the Kentucky Bluegrass Ball, the Inaugural parade and more.



THE
LINCOLN
BICENTENNIAL ADDRESS

MSU celebrated the Lincoln Bicentennial with a lecture by Dr. John David Smith, the Charles H. Stone Distinguished Professor of American History at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.



NKU Graduate Program Growth will Help University 'Double the Numbers' and Meet Business Plan Goals

As part of Northern Kentucky University's role in the statewide effort to double the number of bachelor degree holders by 2020, the university's Business Plan calls for enhancement at all levels of what it calls the "Talent Continuum." This includes nurturing and developing future talent; attracting and importing new talent; applying university resources through applied research, outreach, partnerships, public engagement and regional stewardship; and retaining and sustaining an educated populace through high-paying jobs, good quality of life and life-long learning opportunities.

To go along with the tremendous growth NKU has seen at the undergraduate level, including increasing undergraduate degree production by 52 percent over the past 10 years, the university has seen tremendous development at the graduate level as well.

In fall 2000, NKU received a total of about 700 applications to its eight master's programs and few graduate certificate programs. By fall 2007, that number had risen to 1,687 applications to NKU's 17 master's programs and more than 20 graduate certificate programs.

And applications for fall 2009 are up across the board - every single NKU graduate program has seen an increase in applications for next fall. Overall, there has been a 42 percent increase.

Some programs have seen an unprecedented increase in interest. For instance, graduate applications within the College of Informatics are up 95 percent for fall 2009. College of Arts & Sciences applications are up 80 percent. College of Education applications - 52 percent.

"This is an exciting and challenging time for graduate programs at NKU," said Peg Griffin, director of the university's Office of Graduate Programs. "We are experiencing growth in both the number of programs we offer and the number of students we serve."

Griffin said the growth can be attributed to NKU's strong reputation for professionally focused graduate programs and to the expanded availability of online programs.

With such growth comes challenges. Despite a regional and statewide nursing shortage, NKU's M.S. in Nursing program remains constricted by a space shortage. Funding for a Health Innovations Center is the university's top capital priority and is the No. 2 priority on the list for all Kentucky universities. But in the meantime the NKU nursing program is partnering with the Master of Health Informatics program to meet the growing demand. Applications for the MHI program are up 153 percent.

Program Brings the World into NKU, Local High School Classrooms

This spring NKU is hosting 16 secondary-level teachers from around the globe for a professional development program funded through an International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) grant in the amount of \$149,894.

The program not only entails NKU classroom instruction on American pedagogical techniques, but also includes co-instructor internships at four local high schools.

"This program gives NKU and Northern Kentucky schools a marvelous opportunity to share our educational and regional culture with 16 outstanding international teachers from 13 different countries and to learn more about global perspectives from them," said Dr. Elaine Jarchow, dean of the NKU College of Education and Human Services.

NKU was one of five institutions selected as a host university from an extremely competitive process.

Participants hail from Malaysia, Jordan, Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Venezuela, Morocco, Senegal, Brazil, Algeria, Indonesia, Philippines and Ecuador.

During the last four years, NKU has hosted two month-long English language teaching workshops for 20 United Arab Emirates pre-service teachers; two Fulbright-Hays secondary teacher exchanges for teachers from Uruguay and Thailand; one visit for Fulbright-Hays principals from Brazil; and one Egyptian post-doctoral researcher visit.

'Take Control of Summer'

That's the message NKU is sending current students, incoming freshmen and students at other state universities returning home to Northern Kentucky for the summer.

The university is planning a more aggressive push for summer enrollment this year, letting students know summer courses are a great way to get ahead, catch up or make sure they are on track to graduate when they want.

NKU is developing a web page to make summer registration easier and will even offer drawings for free 2009-10 parking passes to students who enroll in summer classes.

"We have more space in the summer, the classes tend to be a bit smaller and students can focus on just one or two courses," said Joel Robinson, associate vice president for enrollment management.

DID YOU KNOW

From 1997-98 to 2007-08, NKU increased the number of undergrad degrees produced by 52%



Campus Success

- The University of Kentucky helped the nation celebrate the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth with a show-stopping performance of "Our Lincoln" at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. February 2. UK brought a cast of more than 375 performers and technicians to the nation's capital to tell the story of the country's 16th president - and native Kentuckian - on a national stage.
- Two College of Arts and Sciences faculty members have received National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships. Daniel Breazeale, professor and acting chair of the Department of Philosophy, and Peter Kalliney, associate professor in the Department of English, were awarded individual research fellowships for university teachers. Together their grants total \$100,400. UK is the only Kentucky institution to have more than one faculty member awarded an NEH grant or fellowship this year.
- College of Pharmacy Dean Kenneth B. Roberts has been selected the 2009 Outstanding Dean by the American Pharmacists Association's (APhA) Academy of Student Pharmacists (ASP). He was nominated for the national honor by UK pharmacy students from the classes of 2009, 2010, and 2011. The annual award recognizes a dean who has made significant contributions to the APhA-ASP chapter at his or her university and who has promoted with distinction the welfare of student pharmacists through various community service, leadership, and professional activities.

Student Success

- A school-record 33 undergraduate students were selected to present their research at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, which will be held at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse April 16-18. Twenty-eight of the students are Kentucky natives.
- For the 17th time in school history, UK is home of the Universal Cheerleading Association National Championship trophy. UK Cheerleaders captured the title Sunday, January 18 in Orlando, Florida. The team has won 13 of the past 15 national titles. The UK Dance Team also performed well at the championships, capturing 7th place. UK's mascot, the Wildcat, finished 8th in the nation.

Research and Outreach Success

- The Markey Cancer Foundation has received a \$2 million gift from Darley Stud Management, LLC. Darley is the global Thoroughbred-breeding operation of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, vice president and prime minister of the United Arab Emirates and ruler of Dubai. In recognition of the gift, the Markey Cancer Center's blood and marrow transplant unit will be named the Darley Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, pending Board of Trustees approval.
- The University announced February 5 that the UK Tobacco-Free Campus Initiative will take effect on November 19, 2009, coinciding with the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout®, held annually on the third Thursday in November. A tobacco-free policy, which will prohibit the use of all tobacco products (cigarettes, chew, pipes, cigars, snuff, etc.) on campus, already has been in effect at the UK Medical Center and all UK HealthCare-owned facilities within Fayette County since November 2008. When this change is enacted, UK will join more than 255 other United States colleges and universities with tobacco-free policies in place for the entire campus, indoors and out.

FEBRUARY 2009

MAJOR NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM UOFL

Conn Center to take lead on energy research

How will Kentucky replace vanishing fossil fuels with renewable energy? That's the challenge before the Conn Center for Renewable Energy and Environmental Stewardship, a new entity at the University of Louisville's J.B. Speed School of Engineering. Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear and UofL President James Ramsey announced late last month that the center would lead the state's efforts to develop renewable energy. UofL scientists there will team up with other schools, industries and nonprofit groups to learn how to make the most of wind, solar, geothermal and biomass power. UofL engineering and business alumnus Henry Conn and his wife, Rebecca, pledged more than \$20 million to support the center, the largest single gift in the university's history.

Right: UofL President James Ramsey (center) discusses the Conn Center initiative at a news conference in Frankfort featuring Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear and other state officials.



Grants and contracts up by 27%

The total dollar value of grants and contracts coming into UofL increased 27 percent in the first half of this fiscal year, university officials report. The new total, \$80.9 million, represents a \$17.1 million gain over the \$63.7 million brought in during the first half of last fiscal year.

Besides attracting more money from granting agencies and other outside sources, the university has made "translational research" a top priority in its strategic plan for 2020.

The effort is geared toward helping researchers move their findings more quickly from the lab to the marketplace.

Doctors test new way to fix damaged hearts UofL doctors working at Jewish Hospital will conduct the world's first phase one FDA-approved clinical trial using adult cardiac stem cells to regrow dead heart muscle. The research project will test whether the stem cells can regenerate dead heart muscle by turning into heart muscle cells and other cell types. Roberto Bolli, a UofL cardiovascular scientist who holds the Jewish Hospital Heart and Lung Institute Distinguished chair in Cardiology, is leading the study. Only patients with advanced heart disease who already are undergoing bypass surgery will take part in the trial. Cardiovascular disease is a serious problem in Kentucky, which has the nation's highest adult smoking rate and high rates of obesity and diabetes.

Cardinals basketball guard to study at Oxford UofL senior basketball guard Will Scott has been accepted to study at Oxford University in England. Scott will pursue a master's degree in Modern Chinese Studies, a program which accepts only 15 people a year. During the two-year program, he will spend six months in China. Scott, who has a cumulative 3.9 grade point average, is scheduled to complete his master's in business administration at UofL this summer. He already holds a UofL bachelor's degree in marketing with a minor in Chinese. A native of New York City, Scott is in his third year with the Cardinals after transferring from Cornell University after his freshman year.

New partnership to enhance arts, culture UofL has joined an alliance of regional arts, history and cultural institutions to enhance community life and boost

the educational experience of students. The Arts and Cultural Partnership will encourage sharing of knowledge, expertise and programs among organizations such as Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Kentucky Center for African-American Heritage, Speed Art Museum and Frazier International History Museum. UofL will develop a new master's degree in public history through the project that will focus on how to obtain accurate history, interpret and take it into the community.

Western Kentucky University news for the Council on Postsecondary Education, Spring 2009

WKU's Center For Gifted Studies Awarded \$2 Million Grant For Project GEMS



Dr. Julia Roberts, director of The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU, is leading a five-year, \$2 million grant to address the need for a steady supply of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) students in Kentucky and the United States.

The grant from the U.S. Department of Education is one of seven in the country awarded under the Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Act. Project GEMS (Gifted Education in Math and Science) will focus on creating opportunities to generate interest and develop talent in disciplines related to science and math and encourage careers in STEM disciplines. Project GEMS is a partnership between The Center for Gifted Studies and Warren County Schools in Bowling Green. See <http://www.wku.edu/news/releases08/november/gems.html>

WKU Receives McAuliffe Award from AASCU

WKU and Towson University (Md.) are the 2008 recipients of the Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

The purpose of the award is to recognize excellence in teacher education programs and to advance the field of teacher education by identifying promising practices and critical issues related to measuring the impact of programs on teacher candidate knowledge and the impact of these teachers on pupil learning. See <http://www.wku.edu/news/releases08/september/excellence.html>

Five Inducted into Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame

Five outstanding educators were inducted in February as the second class of the Gov. Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame. The five inducted at the Capitol Rotunda are Theresa Cowherd of Bowling Green, Dale Faughn of Fredonia, Jessie Pearl Comer Jackson of Gamaliel, Hilda Willis Jenkins of Bowling Green and Rosemary Weddington of Frankfort. The KTHF was created in 2000 through a gift by former Gov. Nunn, who hoped to recognize the vital role that primary and secondary teachers in Kentucky play in the education of young people and the positive impact education has on the state's economy. See <http://www.wku.edu/news/releases09/february/hall.html>



2009 Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame Inductees

WKU Saves Money, Environmental Impact During Winter Break Shutdown

WKU's energy savings experiment over the winter break resulted in an energy reduction of 1,052,932 kilowatt hours of electricity, 1,112 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions, with a cost avoidance savings of \$128,340 for the three-week period. The University is facing a utility budget shortfall of more than \$520,000 due to increasing energy costs and decided to execute a "hard" shutdown of the campus during the holiday break, closing the campus for an additional week, to capture savings in its energy budget. The University is normally closed for two weeks in December.

During the three week break, WKU's Energy Management Team set back thermostats in buildings, turned off all lighting except for safety lights, unplugged vending machines and water fountains, and turned off water heaters and all other unnecessary energy draws. Faculty and staff were asked to turn off computers, unplug electronics and appliances, and turn off office lights before leaving for the break, a protocol students in university housing have been following for years. See <http://www.wku.edu/news/releases09/january/shutdown.html>

For more WKU news, go to <http://www.wku.edu/news/index.html> or <http://wkunews.wordpress.com/>.



AIKCU campuses work to hold down college costs during difficult economy

Kentucky's independent colleges and universities have always placed a strong emphasis on affordability – with average tuitions about one-third lower than the national private college average and annual institutional aid awards of about \$150 million. AIKCU members are responding to the current economic crisis by taking additional steps to help students and families afford an independent higher education.

AIKCU campuses have implemented a variety of cost-cutting measures that range from reducing travel to hiring freezes to postponing campus construction projects. In many cases, the funds saved are being reallocated to institutional financial aid in anticipation of greater student need in 2009-10.

While most AIKCU campuses are still preparing institutional budgets and calculating tuition for 2009-10, here are a few of the specific initiatives campuses have developed to assist students during these difficult times:

- **St. Catharine College** enrolled 16 students this spring through its “Stimulus Semester” program that provided free tuition for the recently unemployed. **Pikeville College, Campbellsville University, and Georgetown College** offered similar tuition benefits for those hardest hit by the recession.
- **Asbury College** has announced a tuition freeze for 2009-10. Asbury has also increased its scholarship offerings and the number of tuition-free dual credit courses they offer to high school students.
- **Campbellsville University** has announced its lowest tuition increase in 10 years for 2009-10 (3.43%), while increasing its institutional financial aid budget and the number of low cost (\$50/credit hour) dual-credit opportunities it provides area high school students.
- **Pikeville College** has announced a new guaranteed full tuition scholarship for academically qualified, low-income students from a 20 county area in Eastern Kentucky. Pikeville joins **Alice Lloyd College** and **Berea College** in providing guaranteed full tuition scholarships to students from Appalachia.
- **Thomas More College** announced the Thomas More Trust in December, an expanded institutional aid program designed to allay families' financial concerns by guaranteeing that qualified students in the Northern Kentucky region will have access to a Thomas More education.

Bellarmino President sworn in as NAICU Chair

Bellarmino University President Joseph J. McGowan, was recently sworn in as the 2009 Chair of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU). Dr. McGowan has long been a strong voice for independent higher education at the local, state and national levels. We look forward to his leadership during these challenging and important times for independent colleges and universities.